

Minutes of the Feb 5, 2009 Special HP/FH Committee Meeting

Attendance

Present:

Ellen Kosmer (EK), Claude Tellier (CT), Nancy Gregg (NG) Chair Walter Wolnik (WW), Chris Hoffmann (CH) Recording Secretary, Roy Rosenblatt (RR) Staff

Absent:

Jean Haggerty (JH), Flo Stern (FS),

Others

None

Actions:

Called to order at 9:16am

Approved unanimously the motion "Move that the HP/FH Committee support the town's 2009 Community Development Block Grant application as presented". CH/CT

Discussion:

Olympia Drive: Several members requested that the discussion of the owner vs rental distribution at Olympia Drive be taken up next meeting. Roy was asked to provide some figures on vacancies and needs for each group.

CDBG: Roy's original hope to use CDBG money for sidewalk improvements had been found ineligible. His new proposal is to request \$450,000 to be used to purchase properties to provide housing for currently homeless people. The target is to provide housing for four to seven individuals. Target areas should be near bus services and village centers. The Brook and Townhouse condos are possible locations. An agency would be hired to handle managing these properties. The committee would like to be involved in the review process for hiring this agency.

The committee voted unanimously to support this grant application.

Feasibility Study: Roy reported that a feasibility study had been proposed to look for affordable housing. Bids were due back within about a week.

Transportation: There was discussion as to whether CDBG money could be used to pay for job-based transportation. The answer is yes. Though there certainly seems to be a need for this, there is much uncertainty as to how this could be provided. Walter was asked to use his connections to the Transportation Committee to explore this idea.

Tasks:

RR: Get figures that will help determine need for owner occupied and rental housing

WW: Communicate to Transportation Committee the idea of CDBG funds being used for job-related transport

Next meeting:

Feb 12, 2009 at 9am, First Floor Mtg Room

Adjournment

Voted unanimously to adjourn at 10:16am. EK/CT

Submitted By

Chris Hoffmann